

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

One surface of a stimulable phosphor sheet supported at a position for image recording is exposed to radiation. A radiation image having thus been stored on the sheet is read out. Energy remaining on the sheet is released by irradiating erasing light to an entire area of the sheet with an erasing light source located on a side of the other surface of the sheet supported at the position for image recording, which other surface is opposite to the one surface of the sheet exposed to the radiation. A filter having transmitting properties with respect to the erasing light and good absorbing properties with respect to the radiation is located on a side of the erasing light source, which side stands facing the sheet.